East Michigan Avenue (Commercial Building) North side of East Michigan Avenue, 50 feet east of Hamilton Street Marshall Calhoun County Michigan

HAZS MICH, 13-MARSH

PHOTOGRAPH

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey National Park Service Department of the Interior Washington, D.C. 20240

HABS MICH, 13-MARSH,

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

EAST MICHIGAN AVENUE (Commercial Building)

HABS No. MI-245

Location:

North side of East Michigan Avenue, 50 feet east of Hamilton Street, Marshall, Calhoun County, Michigan.

Significance:

A mid-19th century commercial building with an interesting-

storefront largely revealing its original design.

Architectural information:

Exterior: 25-foot frontage, three bays, arcaded facade.

General description: The store front on the first story consists of three equal elliptical arches of low curvature carried on four plain cast—iron piers. Each pier is square in plan with chamfered corners, with an attic base on a high plinth, and a Corinthian—like capital with two tiers of plain acanthus leaves, the upper leaves at the corners terminating in crude volutes. In each spandrel is a plain recessed panel. Each of the side openings is triply divided by slender wooden mullions in the form of colonnettes, the central division being slightly wider than the others. Each of these divisions has a semi-circular head, the crown of the central one being higher that those at the side, and the three being exactly inscribed within the arch of the whole opening. In the two spandrels between these small arches are recessed panels containing foliated ornament. These elements described above appear to be original.

Below the sills of the side (window) openings, which are a little less than two feet above the sidewalk, is modern brickwork.

The central opening is taken up by a modern entrance; a modern entrance also adjoins the right (eastern) opening.

Above the main arches is a plain brick frieze covering an iron girder; above this is a simple moulded wooden cornice. There are a pair of ornamental brackets at the left (west) end of the frieze and a single bracket at the right end. These elements appear to be original.

The present central door occupies one half of the opening (left side); the other half is closed. Both doors are probably original.

Prepared by: Harley J. McKee

Architect, Historic American

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